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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/410,483	09/30/1999	PARTHASARATHY SARANGAM	042390.P7091	6937

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EXAMINER

WON, MICHAEL YOUNG

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2155

DATE MAILED: 10/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/410,483

Applicant(s)

SARANGAM ET AL.

Examiner

Michael Y. Won

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 August 2005.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 16-19 and 25-30 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 16-19 and 25-30 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/4/02.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the amendment filed August 16, 2005.
2. Claims 27 and 29 have been amended and claims 32, 33, and 35 have been cancelled.
3. Claims 1-9, 16-19, and 25-30 have been examined and remain pending with this action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-7, 9, 16, 17, 19, 25-27, and 29-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Spencer (US 6,253,243 B1) in view of Chari et al. (US 6,425,006 B1).

INDEPENDENT:

As per **claims 1, 16, and 25**, Spencer teaches a method (see col.19, line 37) and an apparatus (see col.21, line 24) comprising:

detecting alert events on a client using a platform independent (see col.1, line 60 to col.2, line 4) agent integrated with said client (see col.1, lines 32-59);

reporting detected alert events by said platform independent agent to a remote alert proxy in a platform independent manner complemented by a platform type (see col.2, lines 18-65);

receiving the detected alert events of a client device from an integrated platform independent agent (see Fig.1) of the client device by the server;

obtaining an identifier to identify a class of platforms (implicit: see Fig.7 and col.16, lines 55-67) from the reported detected alert event (see col.2, lines 18-65 and col.8, lines 1-3);

mapping the identifier to a representation of a specific platform type from the class of identified platforms (see Fig.5, # 510 & Fig.7; col.7, lines 27-29; and col.8, lines 1-21); and

translating said reported alert events to client specific control data (see Fig.2; Fig.6; Fig.7; col.8, lines 1-3: "convert traps"; col.9, lines 4-7: "trap is converted to the CMIP event notification type"; and col.19, lines 36-41: "conversion of the SNMP traps to events") via said alert proxy (see Fig.2; col.1, lines 49-59: "management information server (MIS)"; and col.5, lines 53-60) by referring to a platform specific section of an event description file using the mapped representation (see col.9, lines 24-27).

Spencer teaches not explicitly teach that the control data is a hardware control data. Chari teaches of hardware control data (see Fig.4A; col.1, lines 64-67; and col.6, line 62-col.7, line 4).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the teachings of Chari within the method, server and apparatus of Spencer by implementing hardware control data because Chari teaches of accessing variables related to hardware (see col.6, line 62-col.7, line 1) and one of ordinary skill in the art knows that failures or faults occur in both software and **hardware**, therefore such implementation allows network administrators to manage networks more efficiently by handling not only software events but also hardware events. Furthermore, Spencer teaches in column 7, lines 62-65 that SNMP agents "provide information that is used to identify the source device for the alarm".

As per **claim 27** Spencer teaches an article of manufacture comprising a machine-readable medium having a plurality of machine-readable instructions stored thereon, wherein when the instructions are executed by a processor, the instructions subscribe the processor to:

receive detected alert events of a device (see col.1, lines 55-59 and col.6, lines 50-52) from an integrated platform independent agent device in a platform independent manner complemented with a platform type (see col.2, lines 18-65);

parse the received detected alert event, according to an encapsulation protocol, to predetermined variables (see Fig.6; col.9, lines 32-35; col.11, lines 21-25; and col.13, lines 5-9);

assign values obtained by parsing the data packet to predetermined variables (see col.1, lines 55-59 and col.13, lines 22-53); and

translate said received alert events to client specific control data (see Fig.2; Fig.6; Fig.7; col.8, lines 1-3: "convert traps"; col.9, lines 4-7: "trap is converted to the CMIP event notification type"; and col.19, lines 36-41: "conversion of the SNMP traps to events"), wherein the translating includes comparing the assigned values to an event description file to determine platform specific alert information (see col.9, lines 24-42).

Spencer teaches not explicitly teach that the control data is a hardware control data. Chari teaches of hardware control data (see Fig.4A; col.1, lines 64-67; and col.6, line 62-col.7, line 4).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the teachings of Chari within the system of Spencer by implementing hardware control data because Chari teaches of accessing variables related to hardware (see col.6, line 62-col.7, line 1) and one of ordinary skill in the art knows that failures or faults occur in both software and **hardware**, therefore such implementation allows network administrators to manage networks more efficiently by handling not only software events but also hardware events. Furthermore, Spencer teaches in column 7, lines 62-65 that SNMP agents "provide information that is used to identify the source device for the alarm".

Spencer does not explicitly teach of reporting the platform specific alert information in a natural language. Chari teaches of reporting the platform specific alert information in a natural language (see Fig.5).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the teachings of Chari within the system and program of Spencer by implementing reporting the platform specific alert information in a natural language because such implementation gives a network administrator a user-friendly graphical representation of the status information about different components in a computer thereby giving the network administrator greater functionality (configure, manage, and display certain alerts) in resolving the alerts (see col.3, line 66-col.4, line 14).

As per **claim 29**, Spencer teaches of a system (see title) comprising:

a computing device having a management application (see Fig.1, #106) and an alert proxy (see col.7, lines 62-65), the alert proxy to translate command data received from the management application into device-specific (see col.7, lines 62-65) control data (see Fig.2; Fig.6; Fig.7; col.8, lines 1-3: "convert traps"; col.9, lines 4-7: "trap is converted to the CMIP event notification type"; and col.19, lines 36-41: "conversion of the SNMP traps to events"), wherein the translating includes determining an identifier to identify a class of platforms (implicit: see Fig.7 and col.16, lines 55-67) and using the identifier to reference an event description file (see col.2, line 52 to col.3, line 20); and

an other computing device coupled to the computing device having a platform-independent (see col.1, line 60 to col.2, line 4) alert detection element to report detected alert events to the computing device (see Fig.1 and col.1, lines 32-59).

Spencer teaches not explicitly teach that the control data is a hardware control data. Chari teaches of hardware control data (see Fig.4A; col.1, lines 64-67; and col.6, line 62-col.7, line 4).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the teachings of Chari within the system of Spencer by implementing hardware control data because Chari teaches of accessing variables related to hardware (see col.6, line 62-col.7, line 1) and one of ordinary skill in the art knows that failures or faults occur in both software and **hardware**, therefore such implementation allows network administrators to manage networks more efficiently by handling not only software events but also hardware events. Furthermore, Spencer teaches in column 7, lines 62-65 that SNMP agents "provide information that is used to identify the source device for the alarm".

Spencer does not explicitly teach of reporting in a natural language. Chari teaches of reporting in a natural language (see Fig.5).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the teachings of Chari within the system and program of Spencer by implementing reporting the detected alert information to the computing device in a natural language because such implementation gives a network administrator a user-friendly graphical representation of the status information about

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different components in a computer thereby giving the network administrator greater functionality (configure, manage, and display certain alerts) in resolving the alerts (see col.3, line 66-col.4, line 14).

DEPENDENT:

As per **claim 2**, which depends on claim 1, Spencer further teaches wherein detecting said alert events on said client further comprises detecting alert events while said client is in a reduced function state (see col.6, lines 36-38).

As per **claim 3**, which depends on claim 2, Spencer further teaches wherein said reduced function state includes an operating system hung state (see col.2, lines 22-27).

As per **claim 4**, which depends on claim 1, Spencer further teaches wherein reporting said detected alert events further comprises: composing a network data packet (see col.16, lines 20-24), said network data packet including an event code (see col.7, lines 27-31); and transmitting said network data packet including said event code to said remote alert proxy (see col.7, lines 42-48).

As per **claim 5**, which depends on claim 4, Spencer further teaches wherein composing said network data packet comprises encapsulating said network data packet according to at least one of a plurality of encapsulation protocols including a remote management and control protocol (RMCP) and a simple network management protocol (SNMP) (see col.2, lines 13-17).

As per **claim 6**, which depends on claim 4, Spencer further teaches wherein said event code includes a BIOS POST code (see col.7, lines 5-15: <generic-trap> Table).

As per **claims 7, 17, and 26**, which depend on claims 1, 16, and 25, respectively, Spencer further teaches wherein said translating (see col.7, line 66 to col.8, line 1 and col.9, lines 24-25) said reported or received alert events to platform specific events (see col.7, lines 27-31) by said alert proxy further comprises referencing a description data file using said platform type (see col.9, lines 4-7).

As per **claims 9 and 19**, which depend on claims 7 and 17, respectively, Spencer further teaches wherein referencing said description data file comprises referencing one of a management information format (MIF) file (see col.4, lines 48-52) and a management information block (MIB) file (see col.8, lines 5-17 & 35-46).

As per **claim 30**, which depends on claim 29, Spencer further teaches wherein the alert detection element further to receive the translated command data and using the translated command data to set or clear registers within the other computing device (see col.2, lines 28-33).

5. Claims 8, 18, and 28, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Spencer (US 6,253,243 B1) and Chari et al. (US 6,425,006 B1), and still further in view of Regnier et al. (US 5689708A).

As per **claims 8, 18, and 28**, which depend on claims 7, 17, and 27, respectively, Spencer and Chari do not explicitly teach wherein referencing or reporting said description data file comprises referencing or reporting a plain text "ini" file. Regnier

teaches wherein referencing said description data file comprises referencing a plain text "ini" file (see col.2 lines 45-49).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to employ the teachings of Regnier within the system of Spencer and Chari, by making the data files be of a plain text "ini" file, because "ini" files are commonly used in servers in applying restrictions upon clients, thus making the system of Spencer more versatile and also prevents further harm to the client system.

Response to Remarks

6. In response to the remarks regarding claims 1, 16, 25, 27, and 29, specifically the applicants assertion that *Spencer* does not teach or disclose "translating said reported alert events to client specific hardware control data", the examiner disagrees. First, it is noted that the argument discusses only the cited reference location column 2, lines 12-17 of *Spencer* when additional reference locations were provided to teach this limitation, namely col.19, lines 36-41. Regardless, the citing of column 2, lines 12-17 have been deleted and still additional reference locations have been cited to better and more clearly teach this limitation (see rejection above).

In response to the argument regarding the reference that *Chari* does not teach or suggest hardware control data, the examiner disagrees. The examiner directs the applicant(s) attention to Fig.4A. Clearly Chari teaches of hardware control data.

For the reasons above all dependent claims remain rejected.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

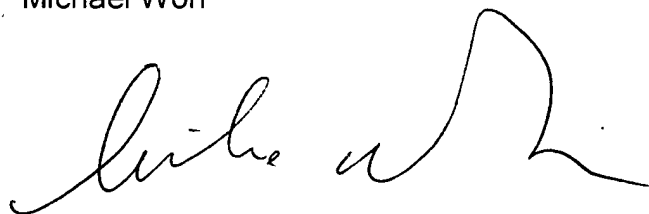
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Y. Won whose telephone number is 571-272-3993. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th: 7AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

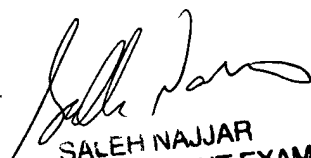
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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Michael Won

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Won", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

October 19, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Saleh Najjar", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER